

TREE BOARD

February 7, 2022

The Tree Board of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met for a virtual meeting appearing via video conference on the 7th day of February 2022, at 4:10 P.M.

ITEM 1, being:

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape and Tedder-Loffland

Absent: Member Huffman, Janaway and Spain

City Officials: James Briggs, Park Planner
Michele Loudenback, Environmental & Sustainability Manager
Karla Sitton, Administrative Tech IV

ITEM 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Member Pape made the motion and Member Tedder-Loffland seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape and Tedder-Loffland

NAY: None

ITEM 3, being:

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Member Fagin made the motion and Member Pape seconded to approve the agenda. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape and Tedder-Loffland

NAY: None

ITEM 4, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE EARTH DAY EVENT

Ms. Michele Loudenback, Environmental and Sustainability Manager, said the Earth Day Event is scheduled on Sunday, April 24, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. She said the event is usually held at Reaves Park; however, due to current construction project, the event has been moved to Andrews Park this year.

Chair Menzie said the Tree Board and Park Foundation generally set up a booth together at the event and he would put up the banner. He said he will be working the Tree Wizard booth most of the day and asked for volunteers at the Tree Board/Park Foundation booth. Member Tedder-Loffland said he will be at the event but will not be able to help the entire time since she was committed to work another booth at the event too. She suggested each of the Members work an hour each at the booth during the event and the Board agreed.

Chair Menzie said Member Huffman usually gets seedlings to give-away and he would try to reach out to him regarding the seedlings since he was not in attendance at the meeting. Chair Menzie asked the Board if they

would like to post the Tree Story Contest winners at the event and the Board agreed unanimously. There will be six winners total; three from the 4th grade classes and three from the 5th grade classes.

Member Tedder-Loffland said she will launch the Tree Photo Contest at the Earth Day Event which will be a year-long contest whereas winners will be announced at the 2023 Earth Day Event. She said she will begin to work on flyers for the contest and bring them to the March Tree Board meeting.

ITEM 5, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING TREE STORY CONTEST

Chair Menzie said approximately 15 stories had been submitted for the Tree Story Contest. The Board discussed the 4th grade stories and 5th grade stories separately. Each Member spoke a little about their first, second and third place choices. After tallying the votes, the winners are as follows:

4th Grade:

First Place: Robert Austin "*Me The Backyard Tree*" Roosevelt Elementary - Mrs. Penner's Class

Second Place: Philippa Deacon Wallet "*A Tree By a Sidewalk*" McKinley Elementary – Ms. Grigor's Class

Third Place: Kate Clowers "*untitled*" Monroe Elementary – Mrs. Wilson's Class.

5th Grade:

First Place: Vivienne Hines "*World Around*" Roosevelt Elementary – Mrs. Schlegel's Class

Second Place: Aubrey Streight "*The Story of a Lightning Tree*" McKinley Elementary – Mrs. Tubb's Class

Third Place: Alexis Keawe "*The Lightning Tree*" Truman Elementary – Ms. Geist's Class

Chair Menzie said he would work with his daughter, who usually dresses up in a tree costume, to get the gifts to all the winners at their respective schools.

Item 6, being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:

Mr. James Briggs, Park Planner, said Staff is currently going through City Forester applications and several of the applicants have forestry degrees. He said Staff plans to conduct interviews next week and hopefully, we will have the position filled by the March Tree Board meeting.

Item 7, being:

AJOURNMENT

Member Tedder-Loffland made the motion and Member Pape seconded to adjourn. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chair Menzie and Members Buthod, Fagin, Pape and Tedder-Loffland

NAY: None

Passed and approved this 7th of March 2022

Don Menzie, Chairperson

